

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claim 3 contains allowable subject matter.

Disposition of Claims

As a preliminary matter, Applicants note that although the instant office action is responsive to Applicants' preliminary amendment of October 8, 2003, the cancellation of claim 4 in that preliminary amendment does not appear to have been acknowledged by the Examiner. Instead, the Examiner has indicated that claim 4 cannot be further examined due to its dependence from claim 2, which has been cancelled. Applicants respectfully request the cancellation of claim 4 in accordance with the preliminary amendment of October 8, 2003.

Claims 1 and 3 are pending in this application. Claim 1 is independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1.

Objection

Claim 3 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claim 3 has been amended in this reply to include all limitations of claim 1 from which it depends and is now in independent claim format. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C § 112

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. As noted above, claim 4 was cancelled in the preliminary amendment of October 8, 2003. Accordingly, this rejection is moot.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C § 102

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,190,193, issued to Wagner (“Wagner”). Claim 1 has been amended in this reply to clarify the present invention recited. No new matter has been introduced by way of this amendment, support for which may be found at least in Fig. 4(a) of the instant application. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claim, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, as amended, is directed towards an embodiment of a PGA contact having an outside surface of a turned portion that is configured to contact a pin, and having a tail portion that is located *on the same side of the base portion as the turned portion*. Such a contact, as recited in amended claim 1, advantageously enables a higher density of contacts to be placed in one PGA socket (*see generally*, Fig. 4(a)).

In contrast, the contact element according to Wagner has a terminal lug (6) that is perpendicular to the contact zone (5) and formed on an *opposite* side of the lower leg member (16). Such an orientation is not as conducive to high density placement of contacts in a single PGA socket, as compared to the claimed orientation. In view of the above, Wagner fails to either suggest or disclose a tail portion as recited in claim 1, that is located on the same side of the base portion as the turn portion. Accordingly, claim 1 is

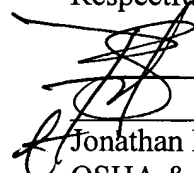
patentable over Wagner. Therefore, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicants believe this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 07700.011002).

Date: 6/2/04

Respectfully submitted,


#45,079
Jonathan P. Osha, Reg. No. 33,986
OSHA & MAY L.L.P.
One Houston Center, Suite 2800
1221 McKinney Street
Houston, TX 77010
Telephone: (713) 228-8600
Facsimile: (713) 228-8778